

In the Town of Scituate's comprehensive 2016 'Coastal Erosion, Sediment Transport and Prioritization Management Strategy Assessment for Shoreline Protection' the shoreline change and coastal processes of Peggotty Beach were analyzed to come up with the best possible mitigation and resiliency recommendation. Based on observed dune and beach migration, the long-term shoreline erosion in this area was determined to be the highest of any developed section of the Scituate shoreline, with retreat rates between 2 and over 4 feet per year. If the Town were to only maintain the status quo at Peggotty Beach, it is anticipated that all dwellings along Peggotty Beach will be lost over the next 50 years. After analyzing the alternatives of beach nourishment, dune enhancement, and managed retreat, the 2016 report determined that managed retreat was the best recommendation for the Town.

Several residents of Peggotty Beach have approached the Town of Scituate with an interest in working with the Town to determine the feasibility of managed retreat. The Town of Scituate has undeveloped property abutting the existing residences that makes managed retreat an actual possibility in this area. With that said, critical and complex planning components including but not limited to the environmental permitting and review process, the movement of critical infrastructure such as water and septic in a heavily regulated flood area, construction design and cost estimates for a new subdivision, and the legal complexity of swapping Town land for private land are components that all add depth and weight to the planning process that are beyond the everyday work flow of a municipality.

MAPC will conduct a feasibility analysis of managed retreat options for the residents of Peggotty Beach. The analysis will include:

- Outreach to affected residents to understand their interests and concerns
- Review of projected future climate impacts
- Review of permitting requirements or limitations
- Analysis of environmental impacts
- Analysis of existing utilities and infrastructure and future needs
- Review of legal issues and liabilities
- Analysis of land use and zoning options

MAPC will produce a final report that provides all findings: including a summary of community visioning process, cost estimates, land use/design recommendations, permitting requirements, environmental impacts, and legal issues. The report will detail options considered, and include recommendations, and suggested next steps.

Public engagement will include ongoing communication with affected residents. The Town of Scituate and MAPC acknowledge that the Consensus Building Institute will provide assistance and technical expertise in the community engagement strategy aligned with terms of this scope of work. Any expenses incurred by the Consensus Building Institute are outside the scope of this contract.

MAPC will provide final report findings in a public session, and communicate project work with the Coastal Advisory Committee and Board of Selectmen as needed. .

Scituate Town staff will:

- Assist with introductions and connections to affected residents
- Provide available documents and information regarding relevant infrastructure
- Provide periodic feedback on progress
- Assist with logistics of public information sessions

Project Timeline

April-June

- Project kick-off.
- Begin fact finding process through analysis of existing documents and communication with Town staff and interviews with other relevant parties.
- Develop outreach plan to affected residents and other stakeholders. Outreach plan may include but is not limited to resident interviews, focus groups, meeting with the Coastal Advisory Commission and the Board of Selectmen, and public outreach session.
- Initiate resident contact.
- Identify any physical site investigation needed.
- Identify project next steps and key tasks.

June- September

- Continue research and analysis.
- Execute outreach plan to affected residents, stakeholders, and public.
- Develop draft of feasibility analysis.

October-December

- Complete feasibility study that includes land use analysis, cost estimates, environmental permitting review, etc.
- Present feasibility analysis to the various stakeholder groups and make a recommendation for moving forward

Project Budget Estimate

Total Project Budget is \$35,000. Initial research and feedback may change budget estimates below, depending upon the need for professional services including land surveying and legal advice.

Context & existing conditions analysis-\$5,000

Review of Plans, Policies, and Regulations-\$5,000

Field Assessment-\$5,000

Alternative Analysis and Conceptual Plan creation- \$10,000

Public participation including stakeholder meetings-\$5000

Feasibility study-\$5000